

# COOK DINES WITH KING OF DENMARK

Was Invited Only After Government Had Made Closest Investigation of His Story.

## DANISH EXPLORERS AGREE.

Their Verdict Unanimously in Favor Of the American's Claim—Nansen Believes Him.

Copenhagen, Sept. 5.—Dr. Frederick A. Cook dined tonight with King Frederik at the summer palace a few miles outside of Copenhagen.

The king summoned Dr. Cook to an audience yesterday as a formal courtesy. They had an hour's talk, and while these royal audiences cannot, according to etiquette, be minutely described by members of the court, Dr. Cook made such an impression on the king that the latter immediately instructed the court chamberlain to summon the explorer to dine with him tonight.

### DANISH EXPLORERS CONVINCED.

The king invited Dr. Cook to meet him yesterday only after having the government make the closest possible investigation into the merits of his story. All Danish explorers were asked to give their opinions of Dr. Cook's claims before the audience was granted, and their verdict was unanimously in his favor.

The dinner was entirely the result of the king's personal opinion regarding the explorer, who had the seat on the king's right, an honor which Danes cannot remember having been accorded another private person, and members of the royal family listened to his every word as he recounted the dangers and privations of his polar journey.

Dr. Cook was immensely pleased today by a telegram from President Taft, in which the president extended his hearty congratulations. He had to undergo an ordeal today, being bombarded on every side with questions intended to test the accuracy of his affirmations.

Although after midnight when he reached his hotel at the end of his first day's trying experience, he sat up for two hours engaged in correspondence and in conversation with Commodore Hovgaard and Professor Olufsen, secretary of the Geographical society. He was up before 7 o'clock this morning reading translations of comments in the Danish newspapers. Latter he received Commodore Sverdrup and Count Harald Moltke, member of the Moltke expedition, who probably will illustrate Dr. Cook's book.

One of the most exacting periods of the day was an interview with Professor Stromberg, leading Scandinavian astronomer, who says when he is per-

mitted to examine Dr. Cook's observations, he can decide within a half day whether the explorer has been at the pole. Several other expert arctic explorers were closeted in conversation with Dr. Cook, and when they came out they appeared thoroughly convinced of his absolute good faith.

A luncheon at the American legation afforded further opportunity to non-expert persons to strengthen their already firm belief in the explorer's narrative.

### A SCENE OF ENTHUSIASM.

The dinner at the royal castle was the scene of greatest enthusiasm. Dr. Maurice Egan, American minister, and several other guests, completed the party. The dinner passed off quietly, as is customary on Sunday in the royal household, but after dinner there was a regular rush around Dr. Cook, who started a succinct recital of his adventures. One after another of the royal personages piled him with questions and marked their intelligent appreciation of conditions in arctic seas, and then waited eagerly while the explorer answered, always without hesitation.

Prince Waldemar, brother of the king, who is a scientific sailor, was extremely interested in the currents about the pole, and the condition of the ice. Prince and Princess George of Greece also made pertinent inquiries. The king and queen and everybody were so greatly interested in the story that they remained in the drawing-room much later than is their custom. As Dr. Cook retired with Mr. Egan, he was the center of a congratulatory group. It was easy to be seen that the royal family had implicit faith in him. It has been decided that, after Dr. Cook's visit to Hinder's office, he will lecture at Paris. He will return to Copenhagen, and sail from there to New York.

One of the most interesting features of Dr. Cook's present position is that he is about the only intelligent man in the world now who does not realize how conspicuous and talked about Dr. Cook is today. Minister Egan has shielded him carefully. While he is theoretically living as the government's guest at a hotel, he is practically living at the legation so that he may be kept away from the pressure of the crowds. Dr. Cook thinks that he will be able to get back to New York quietly so that he may revise his scientific records before he gives them to the world.

At lunch at the American embassy today the explorer escaped for a few minutes from the absorbing topic of the arctic and asked questions, which, to the listeners, appeared amusing, about what was going on. What was this remarkable play "The Merry Widow" of which he had heard from the Danes in Greenland? What was Taft's majority? and similar questions.

### SHIPPED HIS PAPERS.

To obviate the possible loss by shipwreck of his papers, Dr. Cook shipped sections of them from Greenland by different vessels and is arranging to have them sent from Denmark in a similar way. Dr. Cook disclaimed any title to unusual bravery. He says that the success of his expedition was due to the fact that he had strong men and dogs for the final dash, on which several others had started with weakened parties and that he did not follow the "starvation route."

When given some details of Lieut. Shackleton's expedition to the south pole, he displayed enthusiasm over the British explorer's achievement, and in the matter of the authenticity of Dr. Cook's exploit, which seems to

# HEWLETT'S

# -TAS-

# ALWAYS

# GOOD

have raised questions in America, there is this to be said: In Denmark the men of his own profession—explorers—surround him and support him without question. Instead of avoiding them as a charlatan would, he spends every possible moment with them, discussing eagerly observations, ice facts and drifts, dogs and supplies, and they believe in him. Whatever the rest of the world may think, Denmark which pulses itself on arctic explorations, has put the seal of its belief and endorsement on Dr. Cook as strongly as it is possible to do.

### A BELGIAN SCIENTIST.

Brussels, Sept. 5.—Prof. Leconte, director of the Brussels observatory, continuing his defense of Dr. Cook, tonight insisted that the explorer can easily prove his facts to the satisfaction of scientists.

"There has been some astonishment," he said today, "that Dr. Cook found himself on April 21, 1908, in latitude 89 degrees 59 minutes and 46 seconds. Therefore, on April 21, when he had practically arrived at the pole, he made a complementary march of 4 geographical seconds, merely, I suppose, to reply to a possible malevolent critic, who might try to say that Dr. Cook had not reached the pole if he did not go beyond 89 degrees, 59 minutes and 46 seconds. We might say that Dr. Cook had gone entirely around the pole."

### NANSEN TRUSTS DR. COOK.

Christiana, Sept. 5.—Capt. Fridtjof Nansen returned last night from Bergen. Telegrams from all parts, requesting an opinion on Dr. Cook's achievement awaited him, but Capt. Nansen said he did not wish to answer them before the particulars were made public.

To a correspondent he said that errors in newspaper reports were apparent, and that certain points of the published statements required elucidation and scientific examination. Personally, however, Capt. Nansen declared he had confidence in Dr. Cook's trustworthiness. He himself considered it possible to reach the north pole by the aid of dogs, but he pointed out that the placing of a report and the planting of the stars and

stripes in the ice was useless, as the drift would take them far away from the spot where they had been laid.

### COMMODORE SVERDRUP CONGRATULATES COOK.

Paris, Sept. 5.—A dispatch to the Matin from Copenhagen says that Mrs. Rasmussen wife of Knud Rasmussen, who was associated with Dr. Cook in Greenland, has received a letter from her husband by the steamer Hans Egede. The explorer writes:

"I never was so much moved, for I had hoped to carry off this triumph myself."

Mrs. Rasmussen said that her husband always had believed in Dr. Cook, and she believed Dr. Cook had succeeded because he managed to live like the Eskimos.

"My husband," said Mrs. Rasmussen, "was the first to congratulate Dr. Cook and he listened to the testimony of the Eskimos, which is by no means negligible. They do not understand the use of instruments but they know how to make observations of solar light. My husband does not doubt in any way Dr. Cook's veracity. He is mortified to not have performed the feat himself. He is, however, less congratulatory the great explorer."

### SVERDRUP THE EXPLORER.

The explorer Sverdrup came from Christiania to Copenhagen as correspondent at Copenhagen, to congratulate Dr. Cook, who presented the correspondent with the words, "This is the man to whom I owe my success in life."

"What you have done is great, beautiful, I tell you so from the bottom of my heart."

Dr. Cook explained that Commodore Sverdrup had passed years in the difficult and inglorious task of mapping the polar regions. It was by following the indications on the maps of Sverdrup that he was able to find his way so rapidly to the north pole.

Speaking of Cook's achievement, Sverdrup said: "I believe Cook arrived at the pole because he did not cling to the old route usually followed, that which Peary is now following. The rapid currents of this route which carry off the ice may be said to make it impossible to reach the pole. Dr. Cook had the good sense to follow his own idea in the matter of route. He took the only good one on account of the slow displacement of glaciers north of Nansen sound and he had the delicacy to say that I revealed the route to him. That is true. I am the first to publish a survey."

He had with him Eskimos carefully chosen, the explorer, in Greenland knows better than any one else the country and inhabitants and Rasmussen has absolute faith in Dr. Cook's final, none but a madman would think that Cook had not a convincing series of correct observations. When he makes these public all doubts will fall to the ground."

"But," remarked the correspondent, "it has been questioned that he could make a speed of 15 miles a day."

"That objection," replied Sverdrup, "is without foundation, for I have often covered more than 25 miles a day."

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### INFANT MORTALITY.

Conference on Best Method of Preventing it To Be Held.

New Haven, Conn., Sept. 6.—The recent alarming increase of diseases of children attracts interest to the conference on the prevention of infant mortality to be held here by the American academy of medicine Nov. 11-13. The program announced today shows that a number of physicians and social workers prominent in this country and abroad will participate. The principal European speaker will be Dr. Clemens Von Pirquet, who comes to the United States in the early fall to become professor of pediatrics at the Johns Hopkins medical school. He has attracted attention by his studies of tuberculosis among children and his use of the tuberculin test applied subcutaneously.

The conference will be made up of four sections—medical, philanthropic, institutional and educational. Dr. J. H. Mason Knox, Jr., of Baltimore, associate in pediatrics at the Johns Hopkins medical school, is chairman of the section on medical prevention; Dr. Edward L. Devine of New York, editor of the Survey, of that on philanthropic prevention; Homer Folke, secretary of the New York State Charities association, institutional prevention; and Prof. Winslow of the Laboratory of Sanitary research of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, educational prevention. Dr. Helen C. Putnam of Providence, R. I., is chairman of the executive committee.

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### ANNUAL YELLOWSTONE EXCURSION.

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### ANNIE BESANT

Formerly of England, now of India. President of the Theosophical Society of the World, will lecture at Bingham Hall on Theosophy, on Sept. 7, 1909. Tickets on sale Horton Book Store, 27 E. 2nd South, and Deseret News Book

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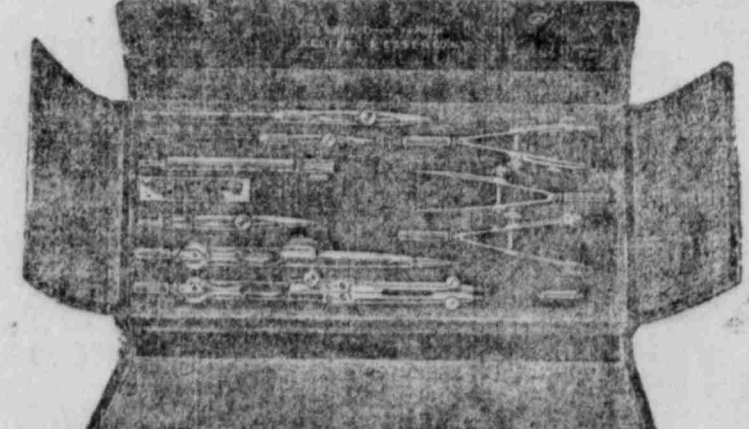


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J. H. Prosser & Co., retired grocer, 69 So. W. Temple, city.  
Mrs. Sarah Hart Harnes, 970 W. 2nd St. city.  
J. G. Cameron, capitalist, 338 Utah St., Suite, Mont.  
John Edwards, house furnisher, P. O. place, city.  
E. Christensen, landlady, 124 1/2 W. 2nd Temple, city.  
Hetterman & Thompson, general merchandise, Europa, Utah.  
A. M. Gordon, merchant tailor, 1204 1/2 Block, city.  
M. M. Cole, Cash Lake, Wash.  
Inter-Mtn. Pk. Co., city.  
Blyth-Fargo Co., Park City, Utah.  
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